

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action dated April 5, 2007 and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. In response to the Office Action, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 14, 15, 21, 22 and 33, canceled Claim 31 and added new Claims 36-38 which, when considered with the remarks set forth below, are deemed to place the case with Claims 1-30 and 32-38 in condition for allowance.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 19-21 and 32-33 have been deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC §§102 and 103**

The remaining claims, however, have been rejected based on prior art. Specifically, Claims 1-2, 6, 8, 11-15, 27, 30-31 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,8585,298 to Humal and Claims 7, 22, 24 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Humal patent. Claims 3-5, 9-10 16-18, 23, 25-26, 28 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Humal patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,758,649 to Frattarola.

In response, Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 15 to include the limitations of allowable Claim 33. Accordingly, it is believed that Claims 1 and 15, and the remaining claims that depend therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

Application Serial No.: 10/524,223  
Amdt. dated July 2, 2007  
Reply to Non-Final Office Action of April 5, 2007

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application with Claims 1-30 and 32-38 are respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would assist in moving the application toward allowance, he is respectfully invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Steven T. Zuschlag  
Registration No.: 43,309  
Attorney for Applicant

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP  
6900 Jericho Turnpike  
Syosset, New York 11791  
(516) 822-3550  
STZ/mak

272596\_1